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L2: Entry 1 of 1

File: PGPB

Dec 6, 2001

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20010049690 A1

TITLE: Method and apparatus for monitoring the effective velocity of items through a store or warehouse

Pre-Grant Publication (PGPub) Document Number:
20010049690Detail Description Paragraph:

[0272] Now referring to a logic block 300 on FIG. 4, as discussed hereinabove the training of the OOS detector occurs in multiple passes. A step 310 signifies the beginning point of the first pass of training, which computes the Initial Base Lambdas. Much of the logical and mathematical operations are iterative, and typically the same functions will be performed on each item record or combination item/store record, one at a time. At a step 312, for each store in the historical transaction database, every item sale record is processed. Then data is accumulated, by: computing the total store sales "T_1" since initial time stamp at a step 314, computing the total category sales "T_2," for each category, since initial time stamp at a step 316, and saving the store and category cumulative sales in memory as an array indexed by timestamp in minutes since initial time at a step 318.

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0272.

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☐ 1. Document ID: US 20010049690 A1

L2: Entry 1 of 1

File: PGPB

Dec 6, 2001

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20010049690

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20010049690 A1

TITLE: Method and apparatus for monitoring the effective velocity of items through a store or warehouse

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments	Claims	KWIC	Draw. De
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L3: Entry 1 of 3

File: PGPB

Aug 15, 2002

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020109593 A1

TITLE: Electronic display system tag, related interface protocol and display methods

Pre-Grant Publication (PGPub) Document Number:20020109593Detail Description Paragraph:

[0102] Check signals may be system generated messages to an on-site or off-site person or persons via a personal pager, wireless telephone text message or email. These messages may, for example, be for the purpose of signaling out-of-stock conditions, system component failure or other required maintenance (for example, replacing a missing tag).

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0104] Check signals may contain specific information as to the nature of service required and the specific physical area of the store and or/product that requires attention. For example, a pager message that indicates an out of stock condition in aisle 3A, section 4, shelf 3 might be presented as "5*31*04*03", where 5 indicates "Stocking Required" (5 looks like an "S" on a pager), 31 indicates aisle 3A, 04 indicates section 4, 03 indicates shelf three and the "*" character is used to separate fields. Possible data presentable in a check signal may include the location of the product, the UPC (or other identifier) of the product, the number of cases to fill the shelf, an indication that a substitute product should be placed at this location or other data maintained by or available to the system. Additionally check signals may indicate other specific actions required for this item or location (other than re-stock), for example, the electronic tag is missing and should be fixed/replaced or in the event of multiple tags being missing on the same shelf, indicating through a check message that a specific coupler be fixed, etc.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0106] Check signals may be managed such that the system prevents redundant or repeated signals from being sent to a given recipient. Further, a prioritization scheme may be implemented such that if multiple check signals are pending, they are prioritized based on a configurable criteria. One example of this may be to sort pending requests by manufacturer. If a given manufacturer is deemed "preferential" as a result of a business relationship or via a paid subscription, that manufacturers out of stock conditions (as one example) be sent before other restocking signals are issued. Other examples would be to sort pending out-of-stock signals based on profit margin or "sale item" status.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0108] Check signals may be further managed such that the system has the ability to send all pending requests to a single clerk, a set of clerks each with their own (non-overlapping) tasks or to a set of clerks by areas of responsibility in "batch" mode (all pending requests at once) or in "handshake" mode, such that after each item is stocked, the next restock check message is sent. Optionally, a configurable number of "pending" requests can be specified such that a specific message recipient will never have more than that number of pending requests at any given

time. As each item is restocked (or otherwise appropriately handled), another message will be sent until all conditions that require attention are handled.

CLAIMS:

25. In a product information display system utilized in connection with a store including product shelves and associated electronic display tags mounted on the product shelves for displaying product information, a method of generating one or more check signals comprising the steps of: electronically determining a product stock condition of a given product on a given shelf; identifying a user to notify regarding the product stock condition; initiating a check signal to the user including data regarding location of the given product.

27. The method of claim 25 further involving the steps of: after a certain time period, electronically determining whether the product stock condition still exists; initiating another check signal if the product stock condition still exists.

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